

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 EUR-12 /136 W
-----049548 042035Z /14

R 021355Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6286
USDOC WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 1384

FOR AF/W, AID/RDP AND USDOC /MEPD/SIPS

E.O. 11652 : NA
TAGS : EAID, BENC, EMIN, ENRG, BTIO, NI
SUBJ : FURTHER COAL CORPORATION DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A) LAGOS 1262, B) STATE 16029, C) LAGOS 240

1. DURING CALL BY EMBOFF, G.A. FATOYE, PERMSEC MINMINES AND POWER DENIGRATED SOME OF THE PROBLEMS SKETCHED BY NIGERIAN COAL CORPORATION(NCC) CHAIRMAN AKPALA (REFTEL C). FATOYE FELT THAT THERE WAS A STRONG POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO REVIVE NCC. HE SAID EXPORT DEMAND IS STRONG WITH MANY REGULAR REQUESTS FOR LARGE ORDERS FROM FRANCE, GERMANY, KOREA AND UNITED STATES. HE ALSO SAID THAT NATIONAL STEEL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY HAD INDICATED IN SEVERAL INTERMINISTERIAL MEETINGS THAT THEY WOULD SOURCE UP TO 25 PERCENT OF COAL NEEDS LOCALLY.

2. WHEN EMBOFF OUTLINED U.S. PRIVATE SECTOR GM POSSIBILITY AS DESCRIBED PARA 3 REFTTEL A, FATOYE SAID FMG WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH A PROPOSAL. HE SAID FMG RECOGNIZES THAT
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EXPATRIATE SOMETIMES NECESSARY IN SPECIALIZED FIELD WHERE NO INDIGENOUS TALENT AVAILABLE.

3. FATOYE SAID USG RESPONSE WILL BE CONSIDERED AMONG OTHERS BY NCC BOARD AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS WILL EVENTUALLY NEED TO PASS FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. GOAL OF EXERCISE IS TO TRAIN AN INDIGENOUS GM BACKED BY STRONG FORWARD LOOKING MODERN

MANAGEMENT TEAM. FINALLY, FATOYE DISCOUNTED IMPORTANCE OF THREAT BY COAL MINERS UNION TO STRIKE IIF CURRENT GM NCC PETER NWORJI IS SACKED AS REPORTED FEB. 1 DAILY TIMES.

4. COMMENT: FATOYE'S STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR NCC REVIVAL AND HIRING OF AN EXPAT GM TEND TO DEFUSE ISSUE OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY FOR US RECRUITMENT PER PARA 1 REFTEL B.

5. FYI LOCAL REP DRAVO, WILLIAM BEER, UNAWARE OF HIS COMPANY'S INTEREST IN THIS PROJECT.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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